



Office of the
Minister

Bureau du
Ministre

Ministry of
Housing

Ministère
du
Logement

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March 8, 1990

Mr. Chris Brown
6267 Castille Ct.,
Gloucester, Ontario
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Dear Mr. Brown:

Thank you for your letter of January 28, 1990 outlining your concerns regarding the rights of persons with "environmental hypersensitivities".

The Ministry of Housing has not yet developed a long-term policy regarding the housing of persons with environmental hypersensitivities. The lead role for dealing with this issue is with the Ministry of Health. Based on the 1986 Zimmerman report, the Ministry of Health is conducting clinical research to establish a more comprehensive understanding of the affliction.

Until more definitive information exists, and a provincial policy position is made clear, the Ministry of Housing is unable to develop a comprehensive policy on this issue. However, we do arrange housing for persons with environmental sensitivities on a case by case basis, much as we modify housing to meet the needs of people with other types of disabilities. In addition, we have initiated a demonstration project to examine one alternative solution.

For example, the Eastern Regional Housing Programs Office of the Ministry of Housing in Ottawa has assisted eight households with environmental hypersensitivities to meet their special housing requirements through the Ontario Home Renewal Program for the Disabled and the Rent Supplement Program.

Mr. Chris Brown

Once the Ministry of Health has completed its research and the Ontario Government's long-term policy regarding this issue has been decided, the Ministry of Housing will be in a position to institute its own long term policy.

I hope this has provided clarification on the concerns you may have regarding the housing of individuals with "environmental hypersensitivities".

Sincerely,


John Sweeney
Minister


Mark Feldman